

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1795
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AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ANKARA 3460

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: PEPR, TU, CY
SUBJ: SOYSAL STRESSES FLEXIBILITY OF TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS

1. TURKISH RADIO MAY 4 BROADCAST TWO SEPARATE INTERVIEWS WHICH
HAD BEEN GIVEN BY TURKISH FEDERATED STATE OF CYPRUS (TFSC)
CONSTITUTIONAL ADVISOR, MUMTAZ SOYSAL, TO UNITED NATIONS
RADIO AND BBC II TELEVISION. THE FOLLOWING ARE COMPRE-
HENSIVE SUMMARIES OF THE TWO INTERVIEWS.

2. UNITED NATIONS RADIO INTERVIEW:
HALMAN: WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE REJECTION BY THE
GREEK CYPRIOTS OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS?
SOYSAL: WE DID NOT EXPECT THEM TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSALS
AND FOR THIS REASON WE HAVE NOT BEEN DISAPPOINTED.... WE
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MADE THE PROPOSALS SO THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE WOULD
COME TO THE TABLE AND WE COULD BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS. IF THEY
HAD ACCEPTED THE PROPOSALS, THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO NEED
FOR NEGOTIATIONS BECAUSE THE PROBLEM WOULD HAVE BEEN SOLVED.
HALMAN: BUT IF THEY REJECTED THE PROPOSALS AT THE BEGIN-
NING, WHAT WOULD BE THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS?
SOYSAL: THE MISSION UNDERTAKEN BY SEC GEN WALDHEIM WAS

NOT TO DEVELOP A PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH PARTIES, BUT TO DECIDE WHETHER THE PROPOSALS BROUGHT BY ONE OF THE PARTIES WOULD SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. HE HAS NOT ARRIVED AT SUCH A DECISION. WE ARE JUSTIFIED IN EXPECTING HIM TO MAKE A FAVORABLE DECISION, HOWEVER, BECAUSE THE TURKISH SIDE HAS NOW DONE WHAT IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN ACCUSED OF AILING TO DO -- COME UP WITH A PACKAGE OF SUBSTANTIAL AND CONCRETE PROPOSALS. WE DID THIS, AND THE SEC GEN HAS STATED THAT THIS IS THE CASE. CONSEQUENTLY, THERE IS NO REMAINING REASON TO CONTINUE TO ACCUSE THE TURKISH SIDE OF NOT DOING WHAT IT WAS SUPPOSED TO DO.

HALMAN: THE GREEK CYPRIOTS CLAIM THAT THE PROPOSALS ARE DESIGNED TO CREATE A DE FACTO PARTITION OF THE ISLAND. IS THIS CLAIM JUSTIFIED?

SOYSAL: IT IS NOT JUSTIFIED. ON THE CONTRARY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE PROPOSALS WE HAVE PUT ON THE TABLE ARE OF THE KIND THAT WILL ENABLE THE TWO COMMUNITIES TO LIVE TOGETHER.... THE TURKISH SIDE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING HAS ACTED IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH ITS GOAL OF ESTABLISHING A FEDERAL SYSTEM. THIS PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH THAT GOAL. BUT THE OTHER SIDE, FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES, IS CLAIMING THAT THE PROPOSALS ARE DESIGNED TO PARTITION THE ISLAND. IF THEY ARE, IN FACT, NEARER THAN WE TO THE CREATION OF A WORKABLE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION, THE EVIDENCE WILL BE SHOWN AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE.

HALMAN: YOU TALKED TO WALDHEIM ABOUT THIS AT VIENNA?
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SOYSAL: YES, WE DISCUSSED THE SITUATION FOR 7 HOURS, BECAUSE WE WERE OPPOSED TO HIS TAKING THE PROPOSALS TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WITHOUT MAKING ANY PUBLIC COMMENT ABOUT THEM. WE WANTED HIM TO SAY SOMETHING NOT ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THE PROPOSALS BUT ABOUT THE NEGOTIABILITY OF THE PACKAGE. WE HAD NO OBJECTION TO HIS TAKING THEM TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AFTER HE MADE THAT STATEMENT. THE OTHER SIDE MAY RESPOND WITH ALL THE PROPOSALS THEY WANT. WE DO NOT WANT OUR PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED ON A TAKE-IT-OR-LEAVE-IT BASIS. WE WANT THEM TO BE PLACED ON THE TABLE AND NEGOTIATED. FOR THIS REASON WE BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE A CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE.

HALMAN: WILL YOU SEE THE SEC GEN WHILE YOU ARE IN NEW YORK?

SOYSAL: NO, WE DISCUSSED ALL PERTINENT MATTERS IN VIENNA. MY MISSION HERE IS TO EXPLAIN OUR VIEWS TO AMERICAN, BRITISH, BELGIAN, AND FRENCH PUBLIC OPINION. THERE IS A PREVAILING BELIEF IN THE WORLD, OR AT LEAST IN THE US, THAT IF THE ARMS EMBARGO ON TURKEY IS MAINTAINED JUST A LITTLE BIT LONGER, THE TURKS WILL GET DOWN ON THEIR KNEES, GIVE A LITTLE MORE LAND IN CYPRUS, AND GIVE MORE CONCESSIONS ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS. WE ARE TRYING TO PROVE THAT THIS BELIEF AND THIS TYPE OF PROPAGANDA IS WRONG. WE ARE TRYING

TO PROVE THAT AS LONG AS THIS VIEW PREVAILS, THE CYPRUS PROBLEM WILL NOT BE SOLVED. IF A CYPRUS SOLUTION IS DESIRED, ONE OF THE THINGS TO DO IS LIFT THE EMBARGO. MANY AMERICANS ARE SAYING THAT THE CYPRUS PROBLEM SHOULD BE SOLVED...AND THE VERY SAME AMERICANS WANT TO MAINTAIN THE EMBARGO. THIS IS A CONTRADICTION. THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WILL CONTRIBUTE TO A SOLUTION IN CYPRUS. FOR THIS REASON, THE AMERICANS WHO TRULY WANT A SOLUTION IN CYPRUS SHOULD COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE EMBARGO MUST BE LIFTED.

3. BBC II TELEVISION INTERVIEW:

QUESTION: DO THE TURKISH PROPOSALS CONSTITUTE A GENUINE ATTEMPT TO GET THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE TO NEGOTIATE OR ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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THEY MERELY DESIGNED TO PUT TURKISH VIEWS ON RECORD? SOYSAL: IF OUR INTENTION HAD BEEN SIMPLY TO PUT THE TURKISH VIEWS ON RECORD, WE WOULD HAVE ACTED DIFFERENTLY AND SOUGHT WAYS TO INFLUENCE WORLD PUBLIC OPINION. FOR EXAMPLE, WE WOULD HAVE TALKED ABOUT IMPRESSIVE RATIOS AND DRAWN MAPS. WE WOULD HAVE MADE A STRONGER FEDERAL PROPOSAL WHICH WULD HAVE LOOKED CHIC AT FIRST GLANCE. WE WOULD HAVE TALKED ABOUT THE FRATERNAL UNITY OF THE TWO COMMUNITIES IN ORDER TO IMPRESS WORLD PUBLIC OPINION. THIS TIME, HOWEVER, WE WANTED TO ENGAGE IN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS.

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QUESTION: THE GREEK SIDE REJECTED THESE PROPOSALS.

KYPRIANOU SAID THEY WOULD MEAN SUICIDE. COULDN'T YOU
HAVE BEEN MORE GENEROUS?

SOYSAL: I DON'T LIKE THE WORD 'GENEROUS', HOW CAN YOU
EXPECT US TO BE GENEROUS IF THE OTHER SIDE DOES NOT WANT
TO NEGOTIATE? LET THE OTHER SIDE COME TO THE TABLE WITH
ITS PROPOSALS. LET'S NEGOTIATE. IF WE HAD PUT FORTH
PROPOSALS ACCEPTABLE TO THEM, THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO
NEED FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

QUESTION: CAN WE INFER THAT IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIA-
TIONS YOU WILL GIVE NO CONCESSIONS?

SOYSAL: IT IS OBVIOUS WE ARE FLEXIBLE. WE HAVE INDICATED
THAT WE ARE READY TO NEGOTIATE THE SMALLER PACKAGES INSIDE
THE BIG PACKAGE.

QUESTION: BUT NOT THE BASIC SUBJECT?

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SOYSAL: THERE ARE BASIC SUBJECTS WE DO NOT WANT TO
NEGOTIATE. FURTHERMORE, THERE ARE PRINCIPLES THAT WERE
ESTABLISHED AT THE MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITY
LEADERS THAT WE DO NOT WANT TO NEGOTIATE. FOR EXAMPLE,
WE WANT CYPRUS TO BE A FEDERAL, BI-ZONAL, BI-COMMUNAL,
NON-ALIGNED REPUBLIC WHERE THE TWO COMMUNITIES CAN PRESERVE
THEIR IDENTITIES. WE HAVE ALSO INSERTED PROVISIONS IN THE
CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD FORBID THE ANNEXATION
OF ANY PART OF THE ISLAND BY TURKEY OR GREECE.

QUESTION: IT APPEARS FROM YOUR PROPOSALS THAT YOU WANT
THE TURKISH SIDE TO HAVE MORE LAND THAT IT HAD BEFORE 1974.
IS THIS COMPATIBLE WITH THE RATIO OF POPULATION?

SOYSAL: IT IS MISLEADING TO TALK ABOUT LAND DISTRIBUTION
IN ACCORDANCE WITH POPULATION RATIO. IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN
MIND THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY IS MORE RURAL THAN
THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY. IT THEREFORE NEEDS MORE
LAND IN ORDER TO SURVIVE.

QUESTION: ARE YOU PROPOSING THAT GREEK CYPRIOT LAND BE
GIVEN TO THE TURKS?

SOYSAL: YOU ARE FORGETTING THAT THERE IS A SIZEABLE
AMOUNT OF TURKISH PROPERTY IN THE SOUTH. THIS PROPERTY HAS
NOW BEEN ABANDONED TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS. FURTHERMORE,

IF YOU LOOK AT THE LAND RECORDS, YOU WILL FIND THAT THE
TURKS HAD THE SAME AMOUNT OF LAND THAT THEY ARE TO BE
ACCORDED NOW. THE DIFFERENCE NOW IS THAT THIS AMOUNT OF
LAND HAS BEEN GATHERED UNDER A SINGLE ADMINISTRATION.
QUESTION: WHAT ARE YOUR INTENTIONS WITH REGARDS TO THE
HOTELS IN FAMAGUSTA?

SOYSAL: THIS IS A MATTER OF BARGAINING. THE GREEK
CYPRIOTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO THEIR HOTELS AND HOUSES
AND PERMITTED TO WORK.

QUESTION: BUT UNDER TURKISH CONTROL, ISN'T IT?

SOYSAL: YES, THIS IS A POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR NEGOTIATION. AS
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WITH ALL OTHER SSUES, EXCEPT FOR THE BASIC ONES, THIS
TOO, IS SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION.

QUESTION: ARE YOUR PROPOSALS FOR A FEDERATION PRACTICAL,
OR WILL THEY DISINTERGRATE IN TIME?

SOYSAL: I DON'T THINK SO. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER FOR
US TO PROPOSE A SYSTEM IN WHICH THE FEDERAL AUTHORITY WOULD
HAVE MORE POWER, BUT IT WOULD NOT BE REALISTIC. LET US NOT
FORGET THAT, UP UNTIL YESTERDAY, THE TWO COMMUNITIES LIVED AS
ENEMIES.

QUESTION: DO YOU BELIEVE THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WILL ACCEPT
THESE PROPOSALS AND COME TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE?

SOYSAL: I HOPE THEY WILL. AT THE MOMENT, THEY HAVE
REJECTED THE PROPOSALS. THIS IS A NEGATIVE ATTITUDE. WE
CANNOT, OF COURSE, EXPECT THE OTHER SIDE TO ACCEPT OUR
PROPOSALS, BUT THEY SHOULD ACCEPT THEM AS THE BASIS OF
NEGOTIATION.

QUESTION: WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THEY DO NOT?

SOYSAL: THE TFSC IS SEEKING A STATUS FOR ITSELF. AT THE
MOMENT, IT HAS NO INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED, LEGAL STATUS.
IF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS REJECT NEGOTIATIONS, I WILL MAKE AN
EFFORT TO GIVE A STATUS TO THE TFSC, BUT I WOULD PREFER TO
DO THIS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. SPIERS

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